Rao Bahadur T. V. Venketeswara Aiyar : Yes.

Mr. K. S. Joseph : Have the cultivators ever suggested that the disturbance of wild animals is more frequent in the smaller areas here and there parcelled out to them than in the bigger areas?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venketeswara Aiyar : But those areas were selected by the people themselves and I do not see any reason why the people should now complain in the matter.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup : May I know whether there is any instance of any land having been taken back for non-cultivation of that area?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venketeswara Aiyar: No, Sir, but the matter is under consideration.

Salt.

34. * **Mr. N. Narayana Kurup :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware that salt is not available for the retail merchants and the consumers at the controlled prices ;

(*b*) whether they have received any representation from the merchants to that effect ; and

(*c*) whether they have taken any action on that representation?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : (*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Does not arise.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup : Am I to understand from the answer that the Assistant Commissioners have not received any complaints in the matter?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : The reply is that no complaint has been brought to my notice.

VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

President : I hope the honourable members are aware of the rules relating to the voting on demands for grants. I find that 13 honourable members have given their names for speaking on the Excise Demand. Only one hour is allowed for the discussion of the Demand and that fact has to be borne in mind. About ten minutes has to be given to the official member to reply to the suggestions made on the floor of this House and the rest of the fifty minutes has to be divided for the speeches of the honourable members. If I am to give time for these 13 members each member could get only some 3 to 4 minutes. This is a matter which really cannot be dealt with in such a manner and therefore the only satisfactory way of dealing with this question will be this. I shall very strictly enforce the time limit of ten minutes for every official member in the matter of reply. I shall also allow the maximum time limit of 10 minutes for the speech of

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[President.]

every other honourable member. But, there is one point to be noted. I shall, as far as possible, give a chance to the honourable members, who had no chance of speaking during the general discussion, to express their opinions, during the time of voting on the demands for grants. Subject to that I shall try to give chances to everybody to participate in the discussion. More than that cannot be done. Any time less than 5 minutes could not contribute to a useful discussion on any Demand and consequently it is of no use either to the person who discusses the subject or the Government. Therefore, I propose to give 5 to 7 minutes time for each honourable member to express his opinions. I am just reminding the honourable members so that, at the end of about 10 minutes' time, I shall stop them. That is the only way how business can be done and I trust honourable members will co-operate with me in the matter. I may also suggest that only those who feel that they have something very specific in regard to each Demand will try to catch the speaker's eye.

Mr. K. C. Chandy: I may be permitted to speak a word in this connection. In the matter of calling the members, if the rule to be followed is that only those who have given their names will be called up by the Chair, may I know whether those whose names have not been furnished in the Secretary's list, will be allowed to speak?

President: Yes. In the Assembly for instance by virtue of moving token cut motions, honourable members are enabled to speak on the Demand in question. Similar rules are not being followed in this House. But I may say at once that I shall not give any preference to those who have given their names because practically the list in my possession contains almost all members. So there is no possibility of showing any preference. The position here is this. For the Excise demand 14 members have given their names; for the Electricity Demand, names of 8 members have been given. For the P.W.D. there are more than 10 members. According to the time limit prescribed, it is not possible for me to call all the members to speak on the Demand. All the same, I shall try to call as many members as possible say about 5 or 6 people in each Demand and thus deal with the matter. More than that is not possible either.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: May I know whether individuals from recognised parties will be given occasion to speak?

President: I cannot make any such undertaking; but there is one recognised party with 7 members and another recognised party with 3 members and that being the case, as far as possible, I shall accommodate the wishes of the party. The rest of the honourable members who belong to no recognised party, they too have to be allowed a chance. All these will be borne in mind.

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Mr. K. S. Joseph : I was given to understand this morning that the names of members will not be called up as was done yesterday in the matter of making a speech. If that be the case may I know whether anybody from our party other than myself will be allowed to speak ?

President : Yes. There is one aspect. For instance, if the whole House were organised into definite parties then it will be a very simple matter. Elsewhere where there are organised parties what is done is : Government request the leaders of the party to give the names of members desiring to speak and accordingly the party leader furnishes the names. Accordingly, the speakers are called up. On the other hand, the bulk of the honourable members in this House have not arranged themselves into recognised parties and so the same position cannot be taken.

Mr. K. C. Chandy : On my part, I am not aware of such a practice and therefore I have not given my name.

President : That does not matter.

Mr. K. S. Joseph : Supposing I prefer another honourable member of my party to speak, would that be done ?

President : Yes. So, what I would suggest is those honourable members who wish to speak must rise in their seats just as they do at the time of supplementary questions to catch the eye of the Chair. I shall then try to call upon the speakers according to (a) the parties and (b) other persons and see how business could be done. I suppose such a selection must be arbitrary in the nature of things; but I shall try to be fair to every section of the House.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup : Sir, I wish to make a statement. The time for answering the interpellations is one hour. To-day it could be found that within 15 minutes' time all the questions were answered. During yesterday and today I find only 17 questions per day have been answered. Therefore, out of about 224 questions which have been admitted for giving answers, at this rate we will be able to get answers for 120 questions or thereabouts. That being the case, I wish that more questions may be answered in the succeeding days.

President : That will depend very largely upon the answers coming from various Heads of Departments. Very often information is called for as to the state of a particular road or bridge. In such cases the District Officers have to be addressed which will take some time. This is all because of the fact of the new Legislature and from next time onwards such a difficulty will not arise. As a consequence it may be possible for Government to answer about 30 to 40 questions for each hour of the day in question.

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Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai: As for that matter that can be done even from tomorrow. Arrangements can be made for answering not less than 30 questions. Elsewhere in the Assembly, out of about 370 questions, as many as 320 questions were answered on the floor of the House. Similar arrangement could have been made in this House also but for the intervention of the Onam holidays. It was only just before the Onam holidays the rule of 12 days' notice expired and because of the 5 holidays during the last week we were not able to get sufficient number of answers. Now that the holiday is over it may be possible to put in more answers.

President: Then from tomorrow forwards about 30 to 35 questions may be arranged for being answered on the floor of the House.

DEMAND I—EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan: Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 12,15,948 under Demand I—Excise Department.

Mr. P. Gopalan : സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ അഭ്യർത്ഥനയെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. റസ്റ്റാറൻറിൽ മദ്യവില്പന നടത്തുവാൻ അനുവദിച്ചുകൂടാ. ഈ മാതിരി ദുഷിച്ച സംപ്രദായങ്ങൾ പരിശീലിക്കുവാൻ ഇടയാകുന്നതു തന്നെ അതിനുള്ള സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുത്തിട്ടാണ്. റസ്റ്റാറൻറിൽ രഹസ്യമായി വന്നിരുന്ന അന്തസും ഉൽകൃഷ്ടതയും ഉള്ള അഭ്യസ്തവിദ്യരായ ഞാളുകൾ പലരും മദ്യപാനം നടത്തുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതു പരസ്യമായ ഒരു പരമാർത്ഥമാകുന്നു. യുവലോകത്തിൽപ്പെട്ട അനേകം ചെറുപ്പക്കാർ റസ്റ്റാറൻറിൽ കിട്ടുന്ന ഈ സൗകര്യം ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്തി വരുന്നതായി കാണാൻ കഴിയും. ഇക്കഴിഞ്ഞ കുന്നരണ്ടു കൊല്ലങ്ങളിലെ റസ്റ്റാറൻറിലെ മദ്യവിൽപ്പനയുടെ കണക്ക് നോക്കിയാൽ അതു് കൂടിക്കൂടി വരുന്നതായി നമുക്കറിയുവാൻ സാധിക്കും. അങ്ങനെ രാജ്യത്തുള്ള ഉൽകൃഷ്ടകുടുംബത്തിലും ഉയർന്നനിലയിലുമിരിക്കുന്ന ചെറുപ്പക്കാർക്കു മദ്യം ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതിനു റസ്റ്റാറൻറിൽ ഈ മാതിരി സൗകര്യം കൊടുത്താൽ രാജ്യത്തിൻറെ അഭിമാനത്തിനും സംസ്കാരത്തിൻറെ പാരമ്പര്യത്തിനും വളരെ ദോഷം സംഭവിക്കുന്നതാണ്. മദ്യപാനം ഇവയ്ക്കില്ലാത്തിനും ദോഷം വരുത്തുന്ന ഏറ്റവും ദുഷിച്ച ഒരു സംപ്രദായമാണെന്നു ആരും സമ്മതിക്കുമല്ലൊ. അതുകൊണ്ടു് റസ്റ്റാറൻറിൽ മദ്യവിൽപ്പന നിരുത്തുകയും സംപൂർണ്ണമായ മദ്യനിരോധനം അചിരേണയെങ്കിലും രാജ്യത്തൊട്ടാകെ നടപ്പാക്കുന്നതിലേക്ക് ഗവൺമെൻറു ഏറ്റവും

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